

  
**Capitol**  
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news

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**STAN  
KENTON**

*Back in Business  
Again*

Story on page 7



## SPOT NEWS

Benny Strong's band returned to the coast—the Mark Hopkins in San Francisco—for six weeks. . . . Hollywood Mocambo will present Lisa Kirk of "Kiss Me, Kate" first two weeks of February. . . . Artie Shaw lost his gall bladder, via surgery. . . . Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis are now airing over CBS after that big NBC buildup. . . . Oddest song hit in years, on the west coast, is "Be Mine." It's all based on a single note and could become a smash nationally.



**BARCLAY ALLEN** is fast recovering from that summer motor crash which has kept him in bed many months. Here he is visited by his old boss, Freddy Martin, who has tirelessly assisted Allen since the accident. Allen, his piano and band will soon have a batch of new records out. They were made shortly before the crash.



DAVE DEXTER'S

## SURFACE NOISE

### It's The Little Things That . . .

The Billy Eckstines are breeding collies at their new home in Encino, 10 miles outside Hollywood. There's a kid who's come a long, long way from Pittsburgh. . . . Jo Stafford's transcribed airshow over Radio Luxembourg is bringing her more mail than did her NBC "Supper Club" series. . . . Charlie Barnet's band played a bar or two of boppish stuff before it folded but the Mab himself, now that he's a personal manager, battled to sign Pete Daily's high-flying Dixielanders as his first band attraction. Barnet's middle name is Daly, s'fact.

At least one booker is pleading with Champ J. Louis to front a dance band. But Joe ain't that stupid, they say. . . . Drummer Lee Young is back playing forward on the 1950 Capitol Records' basketball team. . . . B. Crosby, who owns part of the Pittsburgh Pirates, and B. Hope, who ditto the Cleveland Indians, both now ditto the Los Angeles Rams. That's a football club, Herm. . . . Brother Bob Croz just started his own jockey program over the ABC net, heard Saturdays.

Look for Woodrow Herman to make a radical switch in the type jazz he performs, or have you forgotten the stuff he put down when he was an aggressive, ambitious fugitive from Isham Jones' old ork? . . . Les Brown won't renew his contract for the Hope show next season. . . . "Now you watch the little birdie," a Hollywood photog told Lennie, 7-year-old son of Babe Marshall, at a portrait sitting the other day. "Yeah," leered the Marshall kid, "and you watch out for a double exposure."

Roy Milton is back at his drums again after his '49 Cad hopped off U. S. 99, smacked a steel fence and burned in a snowdrift. He broke three ribs and was battered up—and when he returned to his band Camille Howard gave him notice—so Roy's still hassling. Camille will try her own combo. . . . Gordie MacRae's wife has a fair role in "Backfire," soon due from the Brothers Warner. She'll be billed as Sheila Stephens alongside yummy 'Ginia Mayo. . . . Benny Goodman's big discovery of two seasons back, Wardell Gray, is out leading his own combo after a short spell with the Basie band. . . . And Red Norvo reports that Red Callender is going big, in Honolulu, as a disc-spinner. Norvo's Trio is due home this month.

Lotsa talk around L. A. about teeny Benita Ruth Walker, T. Bone's daughter, and the way she sings the blues. May soon turn pro. . . . And you still, 1950 or no, pays your money and takes your choice. Our choice for the best article on bands and musicians is George Frazier's in the February "Pageant." You mebbe won't agree with all that Old Acidmouth argues, but he argues better in type than any other jazz writer around these days. . . . To M. McH., Louis Armstrong will be 50 years old next Fourth of July. . . . Is it true what they say about Detroit? We're off to find out, via New Orleans, of course.



**JOHNNY MERCER'S** songs and Joan Caulfield's physique feature Columbia's new musical film, "The Petty Girl," which will soon be released nationally in flaming Technicolor. Joan made several pictures at Paramount and in all of them, they dressed her in long, 1890-type dresses. Now they know better!

## Ciro's Snares Starr's Songs

Kay Starr is making her first Los Angeles night club appearance in more than a year at **Ciro's**, ornate Sunset Strip bistro. She opened Jan. 27 as headliner, following Janet Blair and the Blackburn Twins, and will hold forth nightly three weeks.

# L. A. Fans Will Latch Armstrong, Ellington

Los Angeles is awaiting two major jazz events in February, Louis Armstrong coming down from San Francisco to play a dance—for one night only—the night of Feb. 9 in the Shrine Convention Hall, and then Duke Ellington at the Shrine Auditorium in a concert Feb. 20.

Armstrong will feature Jack Teagarden, Barney Bigard, Cosy Cole, Arvell Shaw and the great Earl Hines in his combo. The following night, he will open at the Bal Tabarin in Gardena for a two-week run. Ellington, absent from the coast nearly a year, will follow his L. A. concert on Feb. 20 with a concert in Stockton the 21st, Sacramento the 22nd, Fresno the 23rd, San Francisco the 24th, San Jose the 25th and Oakland on Feb. 26. He also may play in San Diego Feb. 18. All the dates are being produced by Gene Norman, Hollywood radioite, as part of his "Just Jazz" series.

## Nick Lucas To L. A.

Nick Lucas and his guitar are booked for a week at the L. A. Orpheum Theater Feb. 22. Nick has been in the east for a year and will headline the Orph's bill.

## Hughes Musical Stirs 'Em Up

Scores of famous entertainers not under contract for films at Metro, 20th or Warner's are making a pitch this month to land parts in RKO's "Two Tickets To Broadway," first cinemusical to be made at the studio since Howard Hughes took over as boss.

Leo Robin and Julie Styne already are at work writing songs for the production, which Sid Rogell is making for Hughes. Soon to roll, "Tickets" opens a big new field to many singers, dancers and musicians not tied up to the other majors, which turn out musicals nearly every month. The pic will be shot in Technicolor, Rogell announced, and casting is expected to be completed by March 1.



**THOSE WHITING** gals are at it again. And caught in the middle of the tussle is Skitch Henderson, whose band just closed at the Coconut Grove in Los Angeles. Barbara Whiting, left, uses a step-over armlock while Margaret, the loser, eased the pressure and skipped out for New York to do her broadcasts with Jack Smith, Dinah Shore and Frank DeVol from Gotham.





**PETE DAILY** is back in Hollywood at his old stand, Sardi's Monkey Room. But this time he's getting more money, following a big month in San Francisco at the Hangover Club, with the same little Dixie combo which has produced a string of best-selling discs since last June when the Daily etching of "South" zoomed to hit proportions.

Daily, still blowing his taped-up and tarnished cornet, is surrounded by Warren Smith on trombone, Stan Storey, clarinet; Don Owens, piano, and George Deffenbaugh, drums, the same combo which recently waxed six sizzling Dixieland sides for the Daily album out this month. Charlie Barnet will soon be managing the band and lining up eastern dates. Meanwhile, Pete sticks at Sardi's through February 28.

Russ Morgan says he is through with the road. His band is working only sporadically and Morgan has no plans for returning east . . . at least right now.

Bob Smietan, California trombonist, is the latest to form a Dixieland band in Los Angeles. And he had no trouble getting a booking, either. Smokey Stover, on drums; Bill Castinino, trumpet; Ted Wells, clarinet, and Jimmy Worley, piano, round out the Smietan combo, currently playing at the Tom-Tom Club in Glendale.

The Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco will bring in Nat Cole's combo Feb. 14 for two weeks as a follow-up to Peggy Lee, who is there now. Peggy returns to Hollywood for radio work.

Phil Brito is in Hollywood. He's making "Square Dance Katy" at

Monogram. Lindsley Parsons is the producer. Cass Daley is the femme star.

Sister Rosetta Tharpe booked for Los Angeles personal appearances in July.

F. R. Weisman, a Los Angeles neighbor of Freddy Martin, sued the bandleader for \$1,203 damages, alleging that Martin's swim pool leaked, causing Weisman's lawn and badminton court to become inundated with mud. Martin denied any negligence.

Billy Rowe of the Pittsburgh Courier was feted by musicians during his stay here, and Joe Louis interrupted his exhibition schedule to toss a whinging in Rowe's honor. Rowe's views on west coast music and music-makers will be printed in the Courier.

Former Count Basie singer Helen Humes is back singing again. She's been doing a single at Eddie's Oasis near the USC campus in Los Angeles.

Ted Weems' band was thrown out in the cold when the Aragon Ballroom, outside Los Angeles, lost its liquor license and had to close for two weeks.

Helen Kane — remember her back in 1929 as the "Boop Boop a Doop Girl" in films?—added to the cast of "Three Little Words" at Metro.

Hollywood gossip columnists agree that Frankie Laine and Nan Grey, the actress who until recently was wed to Jackie Westrope, the jock, will marry shortly. Laine owns a hoss or two—and has had vast experience with mules.

Janet Blair, soon to begin rehearsals for her Mary Martin role in "South Pacific," was voted



**NEWEST PHOTO** of Betty Grable, the perennial screen sweetie, is from her forthcoming "My Blue Heaven" film which she is just finishing at 20th-Fox. Dan Dailey is her leading man and Sol Siegel is the producer. And there's scads of music in the film in addition to Miss G's two plainly visible assets.

the "outstanding cafe entertainer of 1949" by America's night club operators. The Blackburn Twins, with whom she teamed until recently, will probably remain on the nitery circuit with Vivian Blaine.



## DORIS DAY

In the L. A. Daily News

"I don't want any young girls going home and crying themselves to sleep on their pillows because they are not as beautiful as they think I am. I'm a plain dame like they are, and if I succeed at something in a picture despite being as plain as they are, then that gives them hope that they can succeed, too."

## STAN KENTON

With Steve Allen on CBS

"A young musician who aspires to become a bandleader today must make up his mind to play either dance music or concerts. One can't possibly appeal to both audiences. It isn't like it used to be when Goodman, the Dorseys, Shaw and Miller were getting started. Times have changed—and will change some more."

## BEATRICE LILLIE

In the Hollywood Citizen-News

"I loathe a parade. Being stared at in public. Going to luncheons. Thick roast beef. Noise, of any kind. To go shopping alone. To make beds. To make speeches. I loathe formal dinners. Violence, in any form. Writing letters. Garlic. Telephone bells. Dress fittings. Sitting for photographers. For hairdressers. People who snap chewing gum. Rude waiters. Fried onions. Long rehearsals. And I hate to see the evening sun go down."

## IRVING HOFFMAN

In the Hollywood Reporter

"There once was a man so brilliant that he appeared as Hamlet when he was 17 years old, he wrote 67 plays and nine books himself, and yet what do you remember about John Howard Payne? Only that he wrote one song, Home, Sweet Home."



**BACK AT** work for Hal Wallis, facing the big Paramount cameras again and with Marie Wilson co-featured as she was in their first movie, Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis are busy making "My Friend Irma Goes West." The fast-rising young team faces a smash year—a click on records, on the radio, in films and on TV guest shots. Martin is the straight man.

# Fire Hazard Moves King Cole To Oasis

(Photo On Back Cover)

Los Angeles firemen figuratively cut Nat Cole's water off last month when they prohibited him—and his musicians—from opening at Lucey's swank Hollywood restaurant after contracts had been signed.

Lucey's, the blue-shirts declared, did not meet safety requirements—at least in the room which was being renamed the King Cole room and in which Nat and his combo were scheduled to perform nightly, the first time big name talent had ever been signed by the eatery's management.

So Cole will open, instead, at a little nitery near the University of Southern California campus, Eddie DeSurre's Oasis. And with Nat will be Irv Ashby on guitar, Joe Comfort, bass, and Jack Costanza, bongo drums. Trojan students thus will have one of the nation's hottest attractions virtually next-door to their classrooms.

Cole attempted something different in January, during his vacation, when he persuaded Nellie Luther to go with him into Capitol's studios and wax two novelty "duet style" sides. They turned out so good that Capitol immediately rushed the record out on a special release. The titles include "For You, My Love," a leaping blues with Charlie Barnet's tenor and Ernie Royal's trumpet spotted, and "Can I Come In For A Minute?" Latter title is being introduced for the first time on records by Nellie and Nat. It was Cole, too, who played piano on both sides. Other musicians heard on the two duet faces include Ashby, Comfort and Earl Hyde, drummer who tours with Nellie regularly.





COMING UP fast in popularity on the west coast is "Mister Dixieland" himself, Nappy Lamare, and his new band. And although the boys all live in Hollywood, it was in San Francisco last month, at the Hangover Club, that Lamare's spectacular combo created a laugh riot. The combo lines up with Zutty Singleton, tubs; Pud Brown, tenor; Harry Gillingham, piano; Stew Pletcher, trumpet; Budd Hatch, tuba; Johnny Costello, clarinet, and Leader Lamare on the banjo. Those blazers are for real!

## 'Songs Without Words' Winners Pocket Prizes

For putting lyrics to songs composed by a group of famous composers in Capitol's "Songs Without Words" contest, six winners will this month each receive a check for \$1,000 as an advance against royalties. And the lyrics they wedded to the melodies will be recorded by six of America's greatest recording stars.

The winners include John R. Sharpe III of Mill Valley, Cal., whose "The Dream Peddler's Serenade" was written to Johnny Mercer's melody. Margaret Whiting's Capitol discing of the song will be released in mid-February, first of the six to hit the market. Paul Weston's melody became "When April Comes Again" via a lyric by Doris M. Schaefer of Baltimore. John Goldsberry of San Francisco won with his words to Ray Noble's music, "Who Sends You Orchids." "Love Is A Masquerade" is another winner, written by Aileen Lenhart of San Lorenzo, Cal., to a Jimmy McHugh song. Isham Jones' tune became "Melinda" when Minette Allton of Paso Robles, Cal., submitted the best lyric. And finally, Robert Swenson's "Laughing At Love" won in the competition with a pretty Livingston and Evans melody. He's a teacher at Georgia Tech.

"Many thousands" of lyrics were submitted in the contest, it was reported by the judges, Miss Whiting, Mack Gordon and the songwriters who submitted the melodies for the competition. And only Miss Allton of the six winners had ever had a ditty published before the contest. Capitol will release top-name discs of all six tunes this spring.

## Stafford, Paul Weston Due To Appear in K. C.

Kansas Citians will see a stage filled with top-ranking Hollywood attractions on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, when Jo Stafford makes a personal appearance in the Heart of America city's big Municipal Auditorium as mistress of ceremonies at the annual Heart Association concert which will be attended by more than 10,000 persons.

Paul Weston also will go there from Hollywood to lead the orchestra. And the Starlighters, crack vocal combo, also will make the trip. A feature of the evening will be a network broadcast featuring Weston's music and songs by Jo and the Starlighters.

## Thornhill At Palladium Soon

Claude Thornhill, his exotic cigaret-holder and his orchestra return to Hollywood Feb. 28 for a four-week run at the Palladium.

The Indiana pianist hasn't played on the west coast in many seasons, and it is said his orchestra is loaded with new faces. Freddy Martin, in the meantime, will hold forth at the Pally nightly except Monday.

## Skitch Henderson Makes U-I Short

After closing at the Cocoanut Grove in mid-January, Skitch Henderson skipped over to the Universal-International lot and made a musical featurette for Will Cowan. The Modernaires and the Kings and Their Ladies also made the flick with Skitch. Then the band swung north for one-nighters in the Pacific Northwest and a return, later, to the New York Statler's Cafe Rouge.



STAN KENTON, ready to shove off on his tour, checks his itinerary with Charles Barnet, Hollywood talent manager, who knows a bit about touring himself. The Mab only recently gave up his band and is now keeping regular office hours.

## Stan Kenton's February Route

- 9.—Seattle.
- 10.—Vancouver, B. C.
- 11.—Portland.
- 12.—Open.
- 13.—University of Oregon at Eugene.
- 14.—Stockton, Cal.
- 15.—San Francisco.
- 16.—Oakland.
- 17.—Sacramento.
- 18.—San Jose.
- 19.—Open.
- 20.—Salt Lake City.
- 22.—University of Nebraska at Lincoln.
- 23.—Kansas City, Mo.
- 25.-26.—Chicago Civic Opera House.

# Kenton Ready For Concert Tour With New 40-Piece Ork

They're off and running again on the west coast. And big Stan Kenton is ready to take the rail as his king-sized orchestra of 40 musicians prepares to play the first of more than 70 concerts.

Kenton, conducting a string section for the first time, has assembled 16 in all—10 fiddles, three violas and three cellos—and named George Kast concertmaster.

### Two French Horns Added

Returning from Kenton's old band are a host of stellar sidemen, including Shelly Manne on drums, Bob Cooper and Bob Giga in the reed section and Laurindo Almeida on guitar. The five flashing trumpets are equally well-known: Buddy Childers, Chico Alvarez, Maynard Ferguson, Ray Wetzel and Shorty Rogers.

Trombones, with one still to be added, comprise Harry Betts, Milt Burnhart, Bart Varsalona and a newcomer from Chicago, Bill Russo. And manning the two French Horns are former Claude Thornhill Johnny Graas and Lloyd Otto.

### Out For Three Months

Rehearsals of the new outfit began Jan. 20. And just 10 days later, Kenton took over the Los Angeles Philharmonic Auditorium to present an informal, unrehearsed "workshop preview" for music students, disc jocks and fans in the L. A. area. From the audience's voting will be selected the eight new compositions which are to go into the forthcoming Kenton album which Capitol will release shortly.

Nine arrangers—10 if Stan is included—are turning out new scores. And although much of the stuff is out of tempo, Stan contends it is strictly jazz. George Russell, Manny Albam, Chico O'Farrell, Frank Marks, Bob Graetinger, Johnny Richards, Neal Hefti and George Handy, in addition to Stan and his associate, Pete Rugolo, have submitted manuscripts which the revolutionary SK gang has been rehearsing.

Kenton will be on the road with his band about three months.

### Has Eyes For Opening School

Then, returning to his home high atop a Hollywood hill, he will begin writing and planning for a 1951 concert tour. He also has in mind a motion picture, which he intends to produce himself, and another plan which involves opening a music school in Los Angeles where young students can actually learn about dance bands, jazz groups and contemporary music trends.

June Christy, who goes on tour with Stan, is said to be drawing nearly \$1,000 a week and is thus the highest-paid ork chanteuse in the world. Bob Allison, who is managing Kenton, has personally set up more than 50 of the concert dates himself and will be out on the road with Stan throughout the trek.

Kenton said that Bassist Ed Sarfranski will not be in the new band. Ed is in New York.



# MAKING FEBRUARY HEADLINES...



These three performers — singers all — lead the parade of newbies this month. Over at the left, an anguished Yogi Berra portrays a brow-beaten father, as Yogi does on his newest record, "The Band and the Birds." It's a discing which may well be Yogi's best-selling "Yingle Bells" etching for Christmas. And soon to hit the road with Stanton's powerful new orchestra,

June Christy is shown at a recent Kenton rehearsal. She will hold down the vocal chair with Stan all alone on the long concert tour which gets under way this month. Above, young Robert Clary of France, who's now clicking in California night clubs with his songs, poses for the first time in the U.S.A. He's rated a potential 1950 box-office champ and his first '50 platter, on the Capitol label, pairs "Do It Again" with the whimsical "C'est Si Bon."



# Ernie Hops From Mules To Donkey

By BEEP ROBERTS

Tennessee Ernie is back again, without his mule, but still in the animal kingdom. This time Ernie (who comes from Bristol, Tenn.) has his versions of "Donkey Serenade" and "The Cry Of The Wild Goose" hitched together on a new Cap platter, and on both faces he proves he's a real singer. Ernie, who still airs daily over Pasadena's KXLA, just returned from WSM's "Grand Ole Opry."

## Tuttle Has Radio Show

Wesley Tuttle is airing over KGLI, the San Fernando Valley station in Southern California, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. He plays the better western and folk discs, strums his guitar and chants a hymn on each show, and naturally he has lots of guests dropping in for interviews.

Ramblin' Jimmie Dolan and Red Murrell are off to Texas on a tour which will soon take them to Chicago, St. Louis, Cincy, Nashville and other cities. And just back from Texas is Tex Ritter and his horse, Flash. Tex has just waxed a new biscuit which can't help being a hit and it will be out this month. We ain't tellin' the title. Ritter's movies now are being seen on television, and he is thus gaining a mob of new fans all over.



TENNESSEE ERNIE, hottest attraction to spring up in the western and hill country music field in years, is pictured guesting on Lum and Abner's CBS show from Hollywood. Ernie, moreover, really comes from Tennessee.

As for TV in the Los Angeles area, these are the artists who are regularly featured: Tex Williams, Cliffie Stone, Eddie Kirk, Tennessee Ernie, Ann Jones, Smokey Rogers, Deuce Spriggins and the ailing Spade Cooley, who is recovering from a heart attack.

Jimmy Wakely left Hollywood after appearing with Bob Hope in Alaska and over NBC and this month he will do a TV show in New York with Ken Murray. Have you heard his new record with Margaret Whiting, "Broken Down Merry-Go-Round"?

Jimmie Davis is back at his Palm Springs nitery in California, The Stables, after a visit home in Shreveport.

Les Gotcher, Capitol's square dance caller, is doing p. a. work and will climax his tour with a visit to England.

"Mosey On" may very well become the next big western hit. Deuce Spriggins really did a great job with his Cap etching of the tune—he and Smokey Rogers are featured, still, with Tex Williams' Western Caravan.

Lee Gillette due back in Hollywood after recording Billy Walker, Leon Payne, Lonzo and Oscar, Bob Flannery and Randy Blake out on the road—with stops in Dallas, Houston, Galveston, Nashville and Chicago.

# Weston Answers . . . . Should Pop Artists Perform Classics?

By PAUL WESTON

As Capitol's musical director I feel quite honored to be asked to write a few words concerning the "popular" artist's approach to the classics. Most of the present day recording artists in the so-called popular field have more than a nodding acquaintance with the classics, whether through a record library to which they listen, or through attempts to progress a little beyond the popular field by composing, orchestrating, or performing more serious works.

## Arranging Means Changing

Note that I used the term "orchestrating" rather than the more widely used term "arranging." "Arranging," as understood today, implies adding one's own original ideas to a composition. Usually, the result is a popular song whose melody is taken from a large classical work. Examples of this include the song "Moon Love" taken from the Tchaikovsky "Fifth Symphony" and "Full Moon and Empty Arms" taken from the Rachmaninoff "Second Piano Concerto." "Orchestration," as I use the term, is simply transcribing for orchestra what the composer has written for another group of instruments, sometimes just for piano alone. In doing this an attempt is made to maintain the mood and feeling which the composer intended.

"Arranging" can be somewhat justified by the argument that through this means many people hear a composer's melody (however horribly mangled) who would never have heard the com-

poser otherwise. This practice, it is argued, brings the masses nearer the classics. An argument that makes much more practical sense is that this practice sometimes makes large sums of money for the orchestra leader who sponsors the arrangement. Arranging the classics has fallen out of vogue somewhat lately, due to the fact that the supply of the obvious melodies has been just about exhausted, a fact for which many people are understandably grateful.

## And Now, Orchestrating

"Orchestrating" or "transcribing" the classics is rather a different matter. It is a practice which has a long history, in fact one of the most prolific transcribers of all times was Johann Sebastian Bach, particularly in the case of the Vivaldi concerti. Many of the classical composers, such as Beethoven, Brahms, and Wagner, transcribed symphonic works for the piano. In our own day Ravel's orchestration of the Moussorgsky "Pictures At An Exhibition" is so successful that it surprises many to learn that the composition was originally written for solo piano.

The primary concern of the orchestrator is the maintenance of the same feeling and mood that the composer created. Some works are so perfectly conceived in the medium for which they were composed that attempts to transcribe them to another medium can result only in failure. The famous "Revolutionary Etude" by Chopin is such a work and all attempts to make an orchestration of it, that I have heard, have been painful to hear. On the other hand, despite the objections of purists, I feel that Leopold Stokowski has done a wonderful



WHEN TOMMY Dorsey finishes his coming run at the Shamrock Hotel in Houston, he will return to Hollywood with a new singer on the stand. She is from Texas and her name is Frances Irvin, and she once thrashed with Barclay Allen's band. Other TD sparrows who leaped from his band to become stars in their own right include Jo Stafford, Connie Haines and Marie McDonald.

job with his Bach transcriptions. Since Bach's musical ideas are so tremendous, they are well realized when played by a modern symphony orchestra.

Fundamentally, orchestrating classics involves a sense of musical fitness. One must have a respect for the tradition that surrounds the classics. One of the most certain ways to incur the wrath of the music listener is to disregard that tradition in such matters as tempo and harmonic treatment. An orchestrator is successful when he makes obvious what has been implicit in the music all along; he fails when he makes the listener conscious of the fact that something has been added.

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**STUDIO BASH** in the Hollywood studios of CBS brought together Martha Tilton, Steve Allen, Curt Massey, at the piano, and Country Washburne, all of whom broadcast daily on the "Curt Massey Show," with CBS gagster, pianist and songwriter Steve Allen. Washburne leads the band on the show; Allen was a recent guest. He's said by west coasters to be the best radio talent to come up the pike since Jack Benny.

## Harry James In 20th Musical

Harry James will wind up his long association with 20th-Fox within the next few weeks when he makes his final movie musical under terms of his contract. William Perlberg, who has produced several of Betty Grable's big flicker clicks, is all set to roll "I'll Get By" with Gloria DeHaven, Helene Stanley, Danny Davenport and others.

James, since he hit big with his band back in 1941, has also made pix at MGM and Universal. His horn also is heard on Warner Brothers' forthcoming "Young Man With A Horn" soundtrack although he isn't seen in the production.

## 1000 Broadcasts For 'Laughing Boy'

Jack Smith, now in New York with the Oxydol gang, rang up his 1000th broadcast for that sponsor last month. He's been on five years.

## 'Big Gate' Sick, But Goes On TV

Pneumonia knocked Jack Teagarden right out of the Louis Armstrong band for a couple of weeks, but Big T will be back with Pops and the boys when they open Feb. 10 at the Bal Tabarin in Gardena, a Los Angeles suburb. It's only a two-week run. While Teagarden was recuperating, in Los Angeles, Red Nichols featured him as guest "sitter inner" on Red's KTTV television show, beamed out from CBS every Wednesday night.

## Four Big Stars Set For 'Sing' Flicker

In an effort to outdo all the rival pic studios, Metro is preparing a mammoth musical in which Jimmy Durante, Frank Sinatra, Mickey Rooney and Mario Lanza will all be featured. Tentatively titled "They All Sing," flicker will get the green light in the spring at the Culver City lot. Fem stars haven't been set yet, but the studio hopes to pack the cast with gals as potent as the male quartet featured.



**FAST RECOVERING** from a critical illness back in New York which kept her abed for many months, Mildred Bailey arrived in Los Angeles last month and will remain in the land of smog and citrus until she is well enough to resume her singing chores.

La Bailey, winner of more polls than any of the 1950 crop of chirpers, has been active since the 1920's, when she got her start demonstrating new sheet music in a dime store. Bing Crosby is said to have persuaded her to move to the west coast and has promised her a half-dozen guest shots on his CBS airshow.

And yet another popular—and lovable—singer who maintained her popularity through three decades made the news columns last month. But it was the coda for Ivie Anderson, for 13 years Duke Ellington's singer, who died at her Los Angeles home of an asthmatic condition after a brief illness. Born in California, Ivie leaped from the New York Cotton Club line to Ellington's crew, and her records of "Lonely Co-Ed," "I Got It Bad" and others eventually stamped her as one of the best vocalists of all time. Those who saw her in Duke's 1941 "Jump For Joy" show in Los Angeles also will attest to her dramatic ability. Since 1942—when she left Ellington—Ivie worked as a singer, chiefly on the west coast. Already she is being missed.

Billy Eckstine, when he finishes work in Los Angeles soon, goes north to San Francisco, opening Feb. 15 at Ciro's. He still has yet to make a motion picture at MGM or any other studio, despite all the stuff his press agents send out to newspapers and disc jocks.



**BENNY CARTER**, out of the news in recent months while he concentrated on composing, popped back in when he took his new combo into the Peacock Alley Club in Los Angeles and made a movie short at Universal with the King Cole Trio. With him here are Joyce Bryant, who is doing well on the coast as a singing single, and Rudy Render, pianist and singer whom Carter "discovered" last fall.

## Paul Neighbors Due At Biltmore Feb. 9

Paul Neighbors and his band, a California outfit which just closed a run at the Roosevelt Hotel in New Orleans, is set to follow Chick Floyd's crew at the Los Angeles Hotel Biltmore beginning Feb. 9 for 12 weeks. Neighbors is managed by the newly-formed team of Lyle Thayer and Eames Bishop, both of whom are ex-MCA executives.

## Happy In Bing Film

Bill Boyd, Hopalong Cassidy, has signed a six-year contract with Paramount and his first new film will be with Bing Crosby this spring. Happy will make one a year.



**AFTER PAUL** Whiteman had been signed to appear in MGM's "Three Little Words" musical now shooting, he was forced to cancel out because of his eastern TV show. And so Phil Regan, the Irish tenor, was hastily pacted to a three-picture contract and will be seen along with Red Skelton, Fred Astaire and Vera-Ellen instead of portly Pops.

Jack Cummings, who will produce the flicker, also has pacted Andre Previn, the kid pianist, to write a ballet for the pic. Previn is on the MGM music staff and was graduated from Beverly Hills High School just a few seasons back.

Frank Sinatra opened Jan. 28 at the Shamrock Hotel, Houston, for a short "in person" engagement before returning to his home in California.

Freddy Martin said to be doing the best biz enjoyed by the Hollywood Palladium in three years. The dancery—and Martin's band—are being featured over KTTV television, too. Merv Griffin is Freddy's featured singer.

Hoagy Carmichael will pop up shortly at Mocambo with an act all his own. He previewed it the other night to big response.

Desi Arnaz and wife, Lucille Ball, are signed to appear at the London Palladium this summer. Arnaz won't have his band with him. But he says he'll be taking along his conga drum—and beat it himself.

Harry James just ordered a '50 Cadillac for his frau, Betty Grable. A belated Christmas present, the Horn explained.

## MEET THE JOCKEY!

"CAPTAIN KAY" on San Diego's KSDO actually is Norman Kay, and on the daily program



Norm spins waxings for youngsters, everything from Tex Ritter to Bozo the Clown. Kay is 28, married, a father, and also a Dixieland fan.

In fact, every Saturday morning, he puts on his own full hour of Dixie with emphasis on rare shellac. He's also ex-Army and—listeners don't know it—account executive of Station KSDO. His education includes semesters at Billings Poly, Denver University and Pasadena Institute for Radio. And all the kids call him "Cap."

Pappy Waldorf's Bears weren't the only losers in the Rose Bowl game Jan. 2. The Ohio State band cut California's unmercifully from both the musical and showmanship standpoints.

Sharkey and his Kings of Dixieland, favorites for many years in and around New Orleans, recorded a new batch of platters during Dave Dexter's jaunt to the Louisiana city in late January. Watch for Sharkey's "I'm Satisfied With My Gal" and "Over The Waves" back to back on Capitol this month. Trombone is by Santo Pecora; Lester Bouchon is the clarinetist.



WHOO'S WHERE

- KAY STARR: Ciro's.
- FREDDY MARTIN: Palladium.
- KING COLE TRIO: The Oasis.
- PETE DAILY: Sardi's Monkey Room.
- JACK FINA: Cocanut Grove, opening Feb. 7.
- RED NICHOLS: Hangover Club.
- KID ORY: Royal Room.
- BEN POLLACK: Beverly Cavern.
- PAUL NERO: Mike Lyman's.
- LARRY MADDI: Town House.
- ARTHUR VAN: Colonial Ballroom.
- KAY KALIE: Zambaanga Club.
- MARVIN JOHNSON: Clover Club.
- GINO SEVERI: Lucca's.
- SASCHA LUCAS: Bublichki.
- CHICK FLOYD: Hotel Billmore.

Smiley Really Writes Those Kiddie Songs!



SMILEY BURNETTE may have one of the most popular children's records of the season with his Cap coupling of "Smart Alec Crow" and "Blue Bottle Fly." The renowned comic, a bumbling hero of many a sagebrush movie, wrote the two songs himself. Smiley now is in the eastern states on tour. He has been featured in more than 50 films.

MEET THE JOCKEY!

BUDDY DEANE'S "1340 Club" on WHHM in Memphis has set a station record for pulling mail and wire requests. Just 25, he attended Northwestern and was snagged by WHHM from KGHl in Little Rock. Buddy rhymes his chatter, tries to schedule discs carefully, and gets his personal stabs on his p.m. "Disc Den" stanza which stresses bop and blues. Latch him at 1340 on the dial. A lot of others are doing it!



Bingo! Prize Goes To Bing

For his contribution to golf during the past year Bing Crosby has been awarded the William D. Richardson Memorial Trophy. Bing stages the annual Pebble Beach pro-amateur tourney and pays prizes and expenses out of his pocket while turning over gate receipts to charity. This year, Peggy Lee was a star entertainer at Bing's golf party, along with two crack Dixieland bands, Perry Botkin's and the Firehouse Five Plus Two.

Vido Musso Will Work In Hawaii

When Red Norvo's Trio concludes a run in Honolulu this month at the Brown Derby, Vido Musso will take his tenor pipe and 6-piece combo into the same spot for an engagement of three months at \$1,000 a week. Norvo and Musso were booked on the job by Joe Glaser. Musso's crew, just formed last fall, currently is at the York Club in Los Angeles.

Youngsters who shriek when Smiley Burnette waddles across the screen with his comical songs may not know that Smiley isn't as zany as he looks.

Crows Give Him Big Idea

Take his newest kiddie record, "Smart Alec Crow." Smiley wrote the song himself, and it all happened one day while he and his buddy, Charlie McQuarry, were on location, making a "Durango Kid" movie.

McQuarry started imitating a flock of crows, and they suddenly swooped down looking for something to eat. All but one. And that was the one which gave Smiley the idea for his song.

Now Touring

Burnette, now on tour back east, also is featured on "Blue Bottle Fly," an hilarious ditty which Smiley also cuffed himself. It's the story of a fat man vainly trying to swat a buzzing fly.

And that's how kid's records are born.

Fina Next At Cocanut Grove

Jack Fina will bring his orchestra into the Cocanut Grove of the Los Angeles Hotel Ambassador Feb. 7 for four weeks. And he will rate a \$500 a week raise, his weekly fee jumping from \$2,250 to \$2,750 since he played the Grove a year ago. Also on the bill with Fina, who plays piano, will be the Wiere Brothers. New layout replaces the current Grove attraction of Carmen Cavallaro's ork and the singing Modernaires.

Rudy Vallee East

Rudy Vallee will perform two weeks in Boston, at the Copley Plaza, starting Feb. 8.

JO STAFFORD

MARGARET WHITING

PEGGY LEE

KAY STARR

GORDON MacRAE

THE KING COLE TRIO

BUDDY COLE

BILLY BUTTERFIELD

All-time favorites

BY TOP CAPITOL ARTISTS . . . BRAND NEW RECORDINGS NEVER RELEASED BEFORE

✕ Jo Stafford	"JUST ONE OF THOSE THINGS"	78 RPM 808	45 RPM F808
✕ Margaret Whiting	"FOOLS RUSH IN (Where Angels Fear To Tread)"		
✕ Peggy Lee	"YOU'RE AN OLD SMOOTHIE"	809	F809
✕ Kay Starr	"HE'S FUNNY THAT WAY"		
✕ Gordon MacRae	"SAVE YOUR SORROW FOR TOMORROW"	810	F810
✕ The King Cole Trio	"SUGAR (THAT SUGAR BABY O'MINE)"		
✕ Buddy Cole	"STORMY WEATHER (Keeps Rainin' All The Time)"	811	F811
✕ Billy Butterfield	"YOU'RE THE ONE I CARE FOR"		
	"I'M YOURS"	812	F812
	"JUST ONE MORE CHANCE"		
	"IF I HAD YOU"	813	F813
	"WHEN I TAKE MY SUGAR TO TEA"		
	"S WONDERFUL"	814	F814
	"STOMPIN' AT THE SAVOY"		
	"MORE THAN YOU KNOW"	815	F815
	"HOW AM I TO KNOW"		

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## For You . . . . . My Love



AND THIS is how a hit record is born. Nellie Lutcher and Nat "King" Cole got their heads together—which is obvious in this studio snap by Gene Howard—and knocked off a happy duet on "For You, My Love" last month in Capitol's Hollywood studios. Cole and his Trio will follow Nellie into the Oasis in Los Angeles Feb. 2 for 12 days. Meanwhile, the record just keeps on selling.